

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Claims 1-7 had been previously cancelled. Additionally, kindly cancel claims 13-28, and amend claim 8 as follows, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121:*

1-7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A method for producing an amino acid selected from the group consisting of L-threonine, L-homoserine, L-alanine, L-isoleucine and L-valine, comprising:

cultivating a bacterium which has an ability to produce and cause accumulate-accumulation of the amino acid in a culture medium, and recovering the amino acid from the medium,

wherein said bacterium is a bacterium belonging to the genus *Escherichia*, wherein L-homoserine resistance of said bacterium is enhanced by amplifying a copy number of a DNA in ~~cell~~-~~of~~ said bacterium, wherein said DNA codes for a protein comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2

9. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said amino acid is at least one selected from the group consisting of L-alanine, L-isoleucine, and L-valine.

10. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said DNA is carried on a multicopy vector.

11. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein said DNA is carried on a transposon.

12. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 8, wherein said DNA comprises nucleotides 557 to 1171 of SEQ ID NO:1.

13-28 (cancelled)